

The Historie of

The very bottome and the soule of Hope,
The very list, the very vtmost bound
Of all our Fortunes.

Doug. Fayth, and so we should,
Where now remains a sweet reuerfion.
We may boldly spend vpon the hope of what t'is to come in
A comfort of retirement liues in this.

Hot. A randeuous, a home to fly vnto,
If that the Diuell and Mischance looke big
Vpon the maydenhead of our affaires.

Hor. But yet I would your Father had been heere:
The qualitie and heire of our attempt
Brookes no deuision, it will be thought
By some, that know not why he is away,
That wisdome, loyalty, and meere dislike
Of our proceedings, kept the Earle from hence.
And thinke, how such an apprehension
May turne the tide of fearefull faction,
And breed a kind of question in our cause:
For, well you know, we of the offring side,
Must keepe aloofe from strict arbitrement,
And stop all sight-holes, euery loope, from whence
The eye of reason may pricke in vpon vs:
This absence of your Father drawes a curtaine,
That shewes the ignorant, a kind of feare
Before not dreamt of.

Hot. You straine too farre.
I rather of his absence make this vse,
It lendes a lustre and more great opinion,
A larger dare to your great enterprize,
Then if the Earle were heere: for men must thinke,
If we without his helpe, can make a head
To push against the Kingdome, with his helpe,
We shall, or turne it to pike turuy downe:
Yet all goes well, yet all our ioynts are whole.

Doug. As heart can thinke, there is not such a word
Spoke of in Scotland, at this deame of feare.

Enter Sir Rib. Vernon.

[Hot.]

Henrie the fourth.

Hot. My coosen Vernon, welcome by my soule.

Ver. Pray God my newes be worth a welcome, Lord.
The Earle of Westmerland, seauen thousand strong,
Is marching hitherwards, with Prince John.

Hot. No harme, what more?

Ver. And further, I haue learned,
The King himselfe in person hath set forth,
Or hitherwards intended speedily,
With strong and mightie preparation.

Hot. He shall be welcome too; Where is his Sonne,
The nimble-footed madcap, Prince of Wales,
And his Cumrades, that dash the world aside,
And bid it passe?

Ver. All furnisht: all in Armes?

All plumde like Estriges, that with the winde
Bayted like Eagles, hauing lately bath'd,
Glittering in golden Coates like Images,
As full of spirit as the month of May,
And gorgeous as the Sunne at Midsummer;
Wanton as y^e outhfull Goates, wilde as young Bulls:
I saw young Harry with his Beuer on,
His Cushes on his thighes, gallantly armde,
Rise from the ground like feathered Mercury,
And vaulted with such ease into his seate,
As if an Angell dropt downe from the Cloudes,
To turne and winde a fiery Pegasus,
And witch the world with noble Horse-manship.

Hot. No more, no more; worse then the Sunne in March.
This prayse doth nourish Agues; let them come,
They come like Sacrifices in their trim,
And to the fire-cyde mayde of smokie Warre,
All hot and bleeding, will we offer them:
The mayled Mars shall on his Altar sit
Vp to the eares in Blood. I am on fire
To heare this rich reprizall is so nigh:
And yet not ours. Come, let me take my Horse,
Who is to beare me like a thunder-bolt,
Against the bosome of the Prince of Wales,

H 2

Harry